GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1097
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2001
NATIONAL RIVER WATER GRID
M. JAGANNATH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to enact National River Grid by Linking Inter-State rivers;

(b) if so, the estimated cost is likely to be involved; and

(c) the action taken for its implementation to prevent misuse of water resources?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) to (c) Ministry of Irrigation (now Ministry of Water Resources) and Central Water Commission have formulated a National Perspective Plan for Water Resources Development which envisages inter linkages among the various Peninsular rivers and the Himalayan rivers for transfer of water from surplus basins to water deficit basins for the optimum utilisation of water resources. The Government of India has established the National Water Development Agency (NWDA) as an Autonomous Society in July, 1982 to carry out the water balance and other studies of the National Perspective Plan. NWDA has completed water balance and prefeasibility studies of all the link proposals. Detailed feasibility reports based on survey & investigation for 5 links have so far been completed . Tentative estimated cost(at 1995-96 price level) of the proposed identified links of National Perspective Plan is put at Rs.3,30,000 crore. Implementation of such water transfer link proposals would depend on various factors like consensus among the basin States regarding the proposed transfer, preparation of detailed project reports and availability of funds etc.